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**NASA Space Applications, Aeronautics and
Space Research and Technology, Tracking and
Data Acquisition/Support Operations,
Commercial Programs, and Resources
1979–1988**

Judy A. Rumerman

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In 1973, NASA published the first volume of the *NASA Historical Data Book*, a hefty tome containing mostly tabular data on the resources of the space agency between 1958 and 1968. There, broken into detailed tables, were the facts and figures associated with the budget, facilities, procurement, installations, and personnel of NASA during that formative decade. In 1988, NASA reissued that first volume of the data book and added two additional volumes on the agency's programs and projects, one each for 1958–1968 and 1969–1978. NASA published a fourth volume in 1994 that addressed NASA resources for the period between 1969 and 1978. Earlier in 1999, NASA published a fifth volume of the data book, containing mostly tabular information on the agency's launch systems, space transportation, human spaceflight, and space science programs between 1979 and 1988.

This sixth volume of the *NASA Historical Data Book* is a continuation of those earlier efforts. This fundamental reference tool presents information, much of it statistical, documenting the development of several critical areas of NASA responsibility for the period between 1979 and 1988. This volume includes detailed information on the space applications effort, the development and operation of aeronautics and space research and technology programs, tracking and data acquisition/space operations, commercial programs, facilities and installations, personnel, and finances and procurement during this era.

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